## Modeling: Acquisition

## Marching Cubes

(Lorensen and Cline)









#### Laser

### Imaging (2D/3D)







Platform:WB4Scanhead:WB4Number of Polygons:243,442Scan Time:16 SecondsNumber of Scans:1

# Sensing Technologies - Imaging

- Capture multiple 2D images
- Use image processing tools to create initial geometry data
- Requirements
  - Many cameras
  - Specific locations



# 3D Imaging

- Wave based sensors
  - Ultrasound,
  - Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
  - X-Ray
  - Computed Tomography (CT)
- Outputs
  - volumetric data (voxels)







## Range Scanners

- Laser/Optical range scanner provides 2D array of depth data
- Some capture colour (texture)
- Multiple views for complete object scan:
  - Rotate object
  - Rotate sensor
  - Output point set









- Define iso-surfaces (between data values)
- Triangulate iso-surface
  - Marching Cubes









## Marching Cubes: Overview

- Marching cubes: method for approximating surface defined by isovalue α, given by grid data
- Input:

Output:

- Grid data (set of 2D images)
- Threshold value (isovalue) α



- Triangulated surface that matches isovalue surface of  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ 



- Voxel cube with values at eight corners
  - Each value is above or below isovalue  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$
  - Method processes one voxel at a time
- 2<sup>8</sup>=256 possible configurations (per voxel)
  - reduced to 15 (symmetry and rotations)
- Each voxel is either:
  - Entirely inside isosurface
  - Entirely outside isosurface
  - Intersected by isosurface





# Algorithm

#### First pass

Identify voxels which intersect isovalue

#### Second pass

- Examine those voxels
- For each voxel produce set of triangles
  - approximate surface inside voxel













- For each configuration add 1-4 triangles to isosurface
- Isosurface vertices computed by:
  - Interpolation along edges (according to pixel values)
    - better shading, smoother surfaces
  - Default mid-edges

















## **MC Problem**

- Marching Cubes method can produce erroneous results
  - E.g. isovalue surfaces with "holes"
- Example:
  - voxel with configuration 6 that shares face with complement of configuration 3:





# Solution

- Use different triangulations
- For each problematic configuration have more than one triangulation
- Distinguish different cases by choosing pairwise connections of four vertices on common face







 Ambiguous Face: face containing two diagonally opposite marked grid points and two unmarked ones





Source of the problems in MC method

# Solution by Consistency

- Problem:
  - Connection of isosurface points on common face done one way on one face & another way on the other
- Need consistency → use different triangulations



 If choices are consistent get topologically correct surface



- Asymptotic Decider: technique for choosing which vertices to connect on ambiguous face
- Use bilinear interpolation over ambiguous face



## **Bilinear Interpolation**

- Bilinear interpolation over face natural extension of linear interpolation along an edge
- Consider face as unit square

$$B(s,t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1-s & s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_{00} & B_{01} \\ B_{10} & B_{11} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1-t \\ t \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\{(s,t): 0 \le s \le 1, \quad 0 \le t \le 1\}$$



 $B_{ii}$  - values of four face corners







## Asymptotic Decider Test (cont).





- Configurations 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 and 14 have no ambiguous faces → no modifications
- Other configurations need modifications according to number of ambiguous faces



# Configuration 3+6

- Exactly one ambiguous face
- Two possible ways to connect vertices
  - two resulting triangulations



 Several different (valid) triangulations





■ Two ambiguous faces → 2<sup>2</sup> = 4 boundary polygons





# Configuration 10

- As in configuration 12 two ambiguous faces
- When both faces are separated (10A) or not separated (10C) there are two components for the isovalue surface









 Three ambiguous faces → 2<sup>3</sup>=8 possibilities

 Some are equivalent → only 4 triangulations













- Modifications add considerable complexity to MC
- No significant impact on running time or total number of triangles produced
- New configurations occur in real data sets
  - But not very often



## Examples and Remarks (cont)

	Config	Example L	Example 2	Example 3
	0	263.519	285,074	110,993
	1	7,705	1,912	1.673
	2	8.710	2.065	2.421
l	3A	60	0	. 6
1	38	46	0	б
L	4	28	0	0
٠L	5	5.611	1,228	1.143
	64	20	· 0	0
,L	68	47	0	0
Ľ	7A	3	0	0
L	TB.D	3	0	0
L	7C	3	0	0
L	8	4.637	906	1.146
L	9	1.003	304	261
L	10A.C	13	0	0
L	IOB,D	1	0	0
L	11	36	0	0
L	12A.C	7	0	0
L	12B.D	4	0	0
	13	0	0	0
	14	69	0	0
Table 1. Frequency of configurations				



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